

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /066 W
----- 029966

P R 120530Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL LAHORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0501
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

UNCLAS LAHORE 0813

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS : PINT, PK
SUBJECT : CHIEF MINISTER RAMAY RESIGNS; SUCCESSOR TO BE
CHOSEN JULY 13

REFERENCE : LAHORE 0812

1. PRESS JULY 12 REPORTS THAT PUNJAB CHIEF MINISTER MOHAMMAD HANEEF RAMAY FORMALLY SUBMITTED RESIGNATION EVENING JULY 11 TO GOVERNOR GHULAM MUSTAFA KHAR. (UNDER CONSTITUTION, SUCH RESIGNATION AUTOMATICALLY ACCEPTED BY GOVERNOR.)

2. PPP PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IN PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY REPORTEDLY EXPECTED TO ELECT NEW LEADER AT SPECIAL MEETING JULY 13, WHO WOULD IN TURN BE ELECTED CHIEF MINISTER WHEN ASSEMBLY CONVENES NEXT DAY. CONSISTENT WITH RECENT SPECULATION, PAK TIMES REPORTS "IT HAS NOW BEEN CONFIRMED" THAT PARLIAMENTARY PARTY WILL SELECT FORMER GOVERNOR SADIQ HUSSAIN QURESHI AS NEW LEADER.

3. REPORTS INDICATE THAT NEW PROVINCIAL CABINET LIKELY TO BE CHOSEN AND SWORN IN JULY 15 OR 16 AND THAT "HECTIC POLITICAL ACTIVITY", CENTERING AROUND CHIEF MINISTER APPARENT QURESHI, HAS BEGUN IN LAHORE FEATURING REPRESENTATIONS BY ASPIRANTS TO CABINET.

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4. RAMAY, THIRD CHIEF MINISTER OF PUNJAB UNDER PPP REGIME,

HAD HALF OFFICE 17 MONTHS. IN EVIDENT COMMENT ON CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE AROUND WHICH RECENT DISPUTE BETWEEN GOVERNOR AND CHIEF MINISTER REVOLVED, PAK TIMES NOTES IN NEWS STORY "RAMAY, WHO EXERCISED ALL POWERS UNDER CONSTITUTION, REMAINED ASSOCIATED WITH THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT SINCE THE PPP TOOK OVER IN DECEMBER 1971, FIRST AS GOVERNOR'S ADVISER AND LATER AS FINANCE MINISTER AND CHIEF MINISTER." NOTING THAT RAMAY HAS RECEIVED PPP TICKET FOR ELECTION TO SENATE JULY 24, PAPER REPORTS HE IS LIKELY TO BE APPOINTED TO CENTRAL CABINET, AS EITHER FINANCE OR INFORMATION MINISTER.

SPENGLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LAHORE00813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750241-0391
From: LAHORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750761/aaaaccdf.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LAHORE 0812
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <16 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: : CHIEF MINISTER RAMAY RESIGNS; SUCCESSOR TO BE CHOSEN JULY 13
TAGS: PINT, PK, (RAMAY, MOHAMMAD HANEEF)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006